

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 1 and 22 as presented below. Please cancel Claims 8, 10 – 16, 23 and 31 – 38 without any prejudice or disclaimers.

1. **(Currently Amended)** A grating image having one or more grating fields, each of which includes an electromagnetic-radiation-influencing grating pattern comprising a plurality of grating lines, the grating lines being characterized by the parameters orientation, curvature, spacing and profile, wherein in the grating image, a grating field that is separately perceptible with the naked eye includes an electromagnetic radiation-influencing grating pattern having grating lines for which at least one of the characteristic parameters orientation, curvature, spacing and profile varies across the surface of the grating field,

wherein the grating field forms a matte pattern,

wherein the varying characteristic parameter(s) exhibit a random variation across the surface of the grating field, and

wherein said grating field displays no diffractive effects when viewed.

2. **(Previously Presented)** The grating image according to claim 1, wherein said grating field includes an electromagnetic radiation-influencing grating pattern comprising uninterrupted grating lines.

3. **(Canceled)**

4. **(Canceled)**

5. **(Previously Presented)** The grating image according to claim 1 wherein said grating field includes at least one further electromagnetic radiation-influencing grating pattern having grating lines for which at least one of the characteristic parameters orientation, curvature, spacing and profile varies across the surface of the grating field.

6. **(Previously Presented)** The grating image according to claim 5, wherein the electromagnetic radiation-influencing grating patterns exhibit a variation in those same parameters.

7. **(Previously Presented)** The grating image according to claim 5, wherein the grating lines of the electromagnetic radiation-influencing grating pattern differ from one another by a non-varying characteristic parameter.

8. **(Canceled)**

9. **(Previously Presented)** The grating image according to claim 1 wherein the grating fields exhibit different optical brightness.

10. **(Canceled)**

11. **(Canceled)**

12. **(Canceled)**

13. **(Canceled)**

14. **(Canceled)**

15. **(Canceled)**

16. **(Canceled)**

17. **(Previously Presented)** The grating image according to claim 1, wherein the grating lines are electron beam lithographically produced.

18. **(Previously Presented)** The grating image according to claim 1, wherein the grating lines exhibit a line profile depth between about 100 nm and about 400 nm.

19. **(Previously Presented)** The grating image according to claim 1, wherein the grating image is coated with a reflecting or high-index material.

20. **(Previously Presented)** The grating image according to claim 1, wherein the grating image includes a machine-readable identifier that is not visible with the naked eye.

21. **(Previously Presented)** The grating image according to claim 1, wherein the grating image is combined with a color-shifting thin-film structure.

22. **(Currently Amended)** A method of manufacturing a grating image, which comprises forming in a substrate one or more grating fields, providing each of the grating fields with an electromagnetic radiation-influencing grating pattern filling the grating fields and comprising a plurality of grating lines, the grating lines being characterized by the parameters orientation, curvature, spacing and profile, and in the grating image, a grating field that is separately perceptible with the naked eye is filled with an electromagnetic radiation-influencing grating pattern having grating lines for which at least one of the characteristic parameters orientation, curvature, spacing and profile is varied across the surface of the grating field,

wherein the grating field forms a matte pattern,

wherein the varying characteristic parameter(s) exhibit a random variation across the surface of the grating field, and

wherein said grating field displays no diffractive effects when viewed.

23. (Canceled)
24. (Previously Presented) A security element having a grating image according to at least one of claim 1.
25. (Previously Presented) The security element according to claim 24, wherein the security element is a security thread, a label or a transfer element.
26. (Previously Presented) A security paper having a security element according to claim 24.
27. (Previously Presented) A data carrier having a grating image according to claim 1.
28. (Previously Presented) The data carrier according to claim 27, wherein the data carrier is a banknote, a value document, a passport, an identification card or a certificate.
29. (Previously Presented) The grating image according to claim 1, wherein the varying characteristic parameter(s) exhibit a random and discontinuous variation across the surface of the grating field.
30. (Previously Presented) The grating image according to claim 7, wherein the non-varying characteristic parameter is the orientation of the grating lines.
31. (Canceled)
32. (Canceled)
33. (Canceled)
34. (Canceled)
35. (Canceled)
36. (Canceled)
37. (Canceled)
38. (Canceled)